(a) whether it is a fact that a plan for modernization of Police Forces has been received by the Central Government from the State of Maharashtra for the year 2009-10;

(b) what is the status of this proposal;

(c) whether the Police Forces are adequately modernized in wake of the impeding terrorist threat perception to Mumbai; and

(d) if not, the details of the plan envisaged by the Central Government towards modernization of State Police Forces in different States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) The annual action plan proposal for 2009-10 seeking funds to the tune of Rs. 178.26 crore for modernization of State police forces was received from the State Government of Maharashtra and was considered in the meeting of the High Powered Committee in the Ministry of Home Affairs held on 16.06.2009, which was attended by the representatives of the State Government of Maharashtra. The Central allocation for 2009-10 to Maharashtra under the Scheme for Modernization of State Police Forces (MPF Scheme) is Rs. 84.05 crore. It includes Rs. 2.00 crore allocated to the naxal affected district of Chandrapur of Maharashtra under the MPF Scheme as 100% Central assistance for construction of police stations/outpost and their fortification.

(c) and (d) "Police" is a State subject as per VII Schedule to the Constitution of India. As such, the primary responsibility to modernize/adequately equip their police forces rests with the respective State Governments. However, the Ministry of Home Affairs has been implementing a Non-Plan Scheme for Modernization of State Police Forces (MPF Scheme) and supplementing the efforts of the State Governments for modernization of their police forces. Under the Scheme, assistance is being provided to the States for procurement of modern weaponry, construction of residential and non-residential buildings. Procurement of vehicles, security/communication/ forensic science equipments etc. The State Governments formulate their annual action plans based on their assessed requirements which are considered and approved by a High Powered Committee in Ministry of Home Affairs and funds are released against approved plans under the MPF Scheme.

Proposal to increase no fishing zone for coastal security

†2203. SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BAL APTE:
SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:
SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to increase the number of coastal police stations as well as to increase the coastal security alongwith the 7500 km. long coast line of the country;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal to increase area under no fishing zone near important establishments;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) by when the new coastal security scheme is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN) : (a), (b) and (e) Government has accorded highest priority to coastal security and an integrated approach is being adopted for further strengthening of coastal security.

Pursuant to a decision taken by the Government to further strengthen the coastal security, the coastal States and Union Territories have carried out vulnerability/gap analysis jointly with Coast Guard to firm up their additional requirements in respect of additional coastal police stations, boats, vehicles etc. and submitted their proposals for formulation of Phase-II of the Coastal Security Scheme. The proposal for additional 131 coastal Police Stations and 185 boats/vessels is under consideration.

(c) and (d) The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has informed that, in view of the changed maritime and coastal security scenario in the country, the need to extend the safety zone around petroleum installations beyond the existing 500 meters is under discussion with concerned authorities.

Setting up 'Truth and Justice Commission'

†2204. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:
SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kashmiri Pandits have demanded to set up 'Truth and Justice Commission' in their meeting with political parties on Kashmir issue held in Delhi recently;

(b) whether any official/unofficial stand was taken by someone on behalf of Central Government; and

(c) the details and status of resettlement of Kashmiri Pandits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) and (b) The Kashmiri Pandit Sangarsh Samiti had sent a memorandum in October, 2009 to public representatives demanding establishment of 'Truth and Justice Commission'.

(c) With a view to facilitate the return of migrants who are willing to return to the Valley, the Central Government has approved the construction of 200 flats at Sheikhpora in Budgam district. The Shrine in Mattan and Kheer Bhavani has been developed into two model clusters

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.